

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 MED-02 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 A-01

INR-07 CIAE-00 CPR-01 EUR-12 AF-06 SSO-00 INRE-00

RSC-01 /060 W

----- 100316

O 090320Z JAN 75

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3059

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

JCS/OSD/ISA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MILI AMED CH GW

SUBJECT: MEDICAL CARE FOR FRG MINISTER ROHREKE

REF: A. PEKING 0015; B. STATE 4043

1. I REGRET I DID NOT MAKE CLEAR IN REF A THAT REASON WHY ROHREKE IS NOT RETURNING TO GERMANY IS THAT DOCTORS HERE FEEL HE IS PHYSICALLY ABLE ONLY TO MAKE SHORT FLIGHT TO JAPAN. CHINESE MEDICAL FACILITIES ARE CLEARLY INADEQUATE; FOR EXAMPLE, FRG EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN GETTING HOSPITAL HERE TO DO ENCEPHALOGRAM WHICH GERMAN DOCTOR CONSIDERS ESSENTIAL. SINCE ROHREKE'S FATHER DIED IN CHINA AS RESULT OF INADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE IN A CHINESE HOSPITAL AND ROHREKE FEELS THE SAME THING WILL HAPPEN TO HIM, THE PRESSURE FOR IMMEDIATE EVACUATION IS TREMENDOUS. AS I HAVE ALREADY POINTED OUT, THIS PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTOR IS A MAJOR COMPLICATION IN CHANGES FOR ROHREKE'S RECOVERY. WHILE I AGREE IN GENERAL WITH DG/MED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS TO THE SUCCESS OF TREATMENT, IN THIS CASE, THE BEST POSSIBLE SURROUNDINGS AND THE ONLY MEDICAL FACILITIES IN WHICH ROHREKE AND THE GERMANS

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HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE THOSE

WHICH I HAVE RECOMMENDED.

2. I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT DEPARTMENT DOES NOT FEEL THERE IS SUFFICIENT NATIONAL INTEREST INVOLVED IN THIS CASE TO WARRANT U.S. ASSISTANCE. WE HAVE HAD URGENT REQUESTS FOR HELP FROM FRG AMBASSADORS BOTH HERE AND IN TOKYO, AND I'M SURE THAT THESE REQUESTS AND GERMAN CONCERNS FOR ROHREKE'S HEALTH AND EVEN HIS LIFE HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO BONN. U.S. FAILURE TO ASSIST WOULD, IN MY VIEW, HAVE SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE REPERCUSSIONS IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FRG.

3. THEREFORE, I URGENTLY RECOMMEND THAT:

A. DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER ITS POSITION AND AUTHORIZE MEDICAL CARE AT U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES IN JAPAN; OR

B. IF DEPARTMENT INSISTS THAT SUCH COOPERATION NOT POSSIBLE, AT VERY MINIMUM WE AGREE TO RECEIVE ROHREKE AT U.S. MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR DIAGNOSIS AND EMERGENCY CARE WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT IF PROLONGED CONVALESCENCE REQUIRED HE BE TRANSFERRED TO JAPANESE FACILITIES.

4. REQUEST REPLY BY OPENING OF BUSINESS JANUARY 10 PEKING TIME.
BUSH

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